



## North Glenmore Elementary

### **Gator News** *September 2022*

**School District #23 overarching theme 2022 - 2023: Building Caring Communities**



**Welcome GATORS:** We want to welcome all of our returning and new Gator parents & guardians to a new school year! We hope you all enjoyed the fantastic Okanagan sunshine this summer and are ready for a new year at NGE. We are piloting a new format for our Newsletter this year. We do encourage parents to keep informed by regularly reading our newsletters.

Our school will aim to send the newsletter each month to coincide with the upcoming PAC meeting dates. We also encourage you to connect with your child's classroom teacher for specific details regarding your individual learners at any time throughout the year.

This year we are welcoming 136 families to NGE (75 new Kindergarten students and over 60 new students in grade 1-6). Our current student enrollment is 630 students. We had anticipated our enrollment to be even higher, but we had several families move to other cities over the summer. That said, our school had to re-organize during the 1st week into 27 divisions instead of 28. Our teaching team and support team went above and beyond to look at every individual student's placement. We are confident that every NGE student has been placed in a learning situation that will support their individual learning, growth and success.

**"3 Rs" at NGE:** We held our welcome back opening assemblies during the 1st week. Please connect with your Gator regarding the 3Rs at NGE:

- Respect for Self
- Respect for Others
- Respect for our "Swamp" Environment

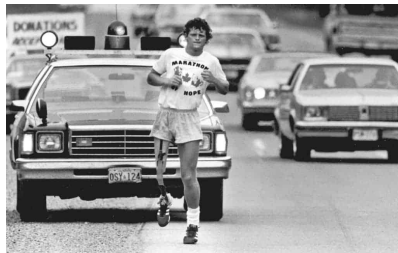
We have also introduced a 4th R...Resiliency: encouraging students to build their strategies and capacity to work through challenges with the support of our amazing NGE community.

**Code of Conduct** - the updated NGE code of conduct can be found on our website under the parent communication portion. Here is the link:

[http://www.nge.sd23.bc.ca/about\\_our\\_school/code\\_of\\_conduct/Pages/default.aspx#/="](http://www.nge.sd23.bc.ca/about_our_school/code_of_conduct/Pages/default.aspx#/=) . Classroom communities have reviewed this information as well as developed their own behaviour expectations matrix for their class.

**Photo Day** - Wednesday, September 14th was individual photo day at NGE. More information regarding ordering photos will be coming home once the pictures are back

at NGE and ready for distribution. If your child was absent on the 14th, or you want retakes, please mark your calendars for **Monday, October 24, 2022**.



**Terry Fox Run** - Thank you to families who sent in “Toonies For Terry” this past week. We also want to thank our grade 06 classes for their help in organizing our Terry Fox event this year. So far we have raised \$1431.61 for the Terry Fox Foundation for cancer research.

**New Kiss and Drop** - Thank you for your patience and understanding as we unveiled a new protocol for our NGE Kiss and Drop program. All indications and feedback suggest that it is a welcome improvement. A gentle reminder that our parking lot is for STAFF PARKING ONLY. Please do not enter the upper loop at any time. We want to thank our District partner groups; The Safe Ride to School Committee members and the City of Kelowna for helping us to strategically adjust our traffic patterns so that we can help our students arrive and leave our school grounds safely. Thank you for keeping the BIKE LANES clear so that our GATORS choosing to ride to school have a safe route as well.

**Classroom Organization:** Here is the list of our 27 Divisions and the classroom teachers. We invite you to collaborate with your classroom teacher regarding specific questions; concerns; scheduling and communication. Teachers will be inviting parents to meet with them the week of October 5 & 6.

| <b>DIV &amp; GRADE</b> | <b>TEACHER</b>           | <b>DIV &amp; GRADE</b> | <b>TEACHER</b>      |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Div 1 Kindergarten     | Mrs. Wright              | Div 15 grade 03        | Mrs. Hamilton-Smith |
| Div 2 Kindergarten     | Miss Schulz              | Div 16 grade 03        | Mrs. Burton         |
| Div 3 Kindergarten     | Ms. Renner               | Div 17 grade 03/04     | Mrs. Hayes          |
| Div 4 Kindergarten     | Mrs. Nye                 | Div 18 grade 04        | Mrs. Mundie         |
| Div 5 grade 01         | Mrs. Palahniuk/Mrs. Bell | Div 19 grade 04        | Mrs. Moffatt        |
| Div 6 grade 01         | Ms. Ringguth             | Div 20 grade 04/5      | Mr. Reid            |
| Div 7 grade 01         | Mrs. Bassett-Smith       | Div 21 grade 04/05     | Mrs. Harms          |
| Div 8 grade 01/02      | Mrs. Gervais             | Div 22 grade 05        | Mr. Smith           |
| Div 9 grade 01/02      | Mrs. Cross               | Div 23 grade 05/06     | Mrs. Bowen          |
| Div 10 grade 02        | Mrs. Romano              | Div 24 grade 05/06     | Mrs. Davies         |
| Div 11 grade 02        | Mrs. Matichuk            | Div 25 grade 06        | Ms. Erickson        |
| Div 12 grade 02        | Ms. Kohlen               | Div 26 grade 06        | Mrs. Hildebrant     |
| Div 13 grade 03        | Ms. Hanson               | Div 27 grade 06        | Mrs. Winford        |
| Div 14 grade 03        | Miss Martin              |                        |                     |

**New Staff Welcome:** We also welcome several new members to the staff of NGE inclusive of clerical; office; custodial services. A great big Gator CHOMP to all of the newest members of our NGE staff!

### Student Verification Forms

Verification forms are being delivered this week on YELLOW paper. Thank you parents for reading these carefully, making any edits/changes and **returning them to your child's teachers as soon as possible**. These forms must be filled out at the beginning of each year for **every** child in order to confirm or provide new contact information. If this information should change throughout the school year, please contact the office to update. Please send the forms back as soon as you can.

*Helping students deal with anxiety*: Anxiety is normal—we all experience it from time to time. But if anxiety is intense, out of proportion to the threat, or long-lasting, it can interfere with our well-being. It can also impact students' ability to learn and their success in school. The Ministry of Education has put together resources for teachers and parents. Here is a link to the Parent <https://healthymindsbc.gov.bc.ca/ease-at-home-k-7/>

### Accident Insurance

Central Okanagan Public Schools does not insure expenses for **student injuries** that occur on school grounds or during school activities. Parents and guardians can voluntarily purchase private accident insurance. The Kids Plus Accident Insurance Program that was previously offered to our students was discontinued in 2019. The IA Financial Group now offers the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan (FARP) which is a voluntary plan that provides coverage for students and their families against accidental injury, unexpected medical expenses, and critical illness.

To apply for the Family Accident Reimbursement Plan or to find out more, visit <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>.

### Appeals Procedures: The Central Okanagan School District's Appeals Process

Board Policy 460 – Appeals states that, "A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in the Central Okanagan Public Schools may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student". For a complete description of the Appeals Policy, along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460 – Appeals, that can be accessed from the 'Policies' link under the Board of Education heading on the School District homepage ([www.sd23.bc.ca](http://www.sd23.bc.ca)).

### **The Central Okanagan School District's Financial Hardship Clause**

Within Board Regulation 425R – Student Fees (see [www.sd23.bc.ca](http://www.sd23.bc.ca)), the Board of Education has

indicated *"that a student will not be excluded from any educational program due to financial hardship"*. Clause 8.5 in the Regulations states *"Principals are directed to establish a procedure in each school which will allow for the private and confidential consideration of financial circumstances of individual students and families. Such procedures will preserve the dignity of families who may be unable to pay"*.

**Please contact Sue Stevenson, NGE Principal, if you are facing a financial hardship that may restrict the ability of your child to access a school program.**

*From the office:* Reminder to parents to please bring in any missing documentation as soon as possible. We will reach out to parents to request missing registration and / or medical information as we review intake files. It is a Ministry of Education requirement that we have all legal documents on file in a timely manner.

*Medical Cautions* - Please connect with office clerk Leah Andersen in the main office regarding any updates or changes to current medical information for your child. Please deliver medications your child MAY require to the office ASAP.

*Volunteering* - Forms are available to be picked up at the main office. As per school board policy, all volunteers in our school MUST complete a Criminal record check which is valid for 4 years.

*Student Fees* - collection temporarily suspended as per Ministry of Education support.

*Office hours* - Thank you for utilizing the district automated synervoice system to report student absenteeism promptly in the morning. Our office is open from 8:00 am until 3:00. At 250-870-5128. The office is unable to manage inquiries or messages regarding changes of plans and appointments. Please work with your child and his/her teacher to have these arrangements made and confirmed prior to arriving on site. The office is always available to help in an emergency.

*Upcoming dates to note:*

No school - Monday, September 19th Day of Mourning - Queen Elizabeth II

No school - Friday, September 30 - National Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation Day



**NGE G.A.T.O.R.S. are:**

**Generous Academic Trustworthy Organized Respectful Safe**